Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/19/2024 10:20:14 PM First name: Gary Last name: Verst Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have spent a good portion of the last 10 years visiting our National Parks and hiking in our forests. We have hiked trails through the redwoods, sequoias, and bristlecone pines, the Sierra, Cascades, Rockies, and Appalachians and I hope to visit more of the these beautiful, solemn, impactful noble green icons as long as I live. The older the forest the more beautiful it is.

I know that for fire control, disease, and domestically (only) use wood, some forests need to be partitioned and utilized, but that process needs to be managed by knowledgeable people without a directive to keep money in profiteering enterprises. It must be remembered that these trees are every bit as much mine and my neighbor's as someone who owns a lumber company who wants to make pellets for Europe and Asia. Thank you for your attention.